



VISION STATEMENT

The Butler County Child and Family Development Task Force, with community support, ensure quality, available, and affordable childcare, early childhood education, children's health services and family support for all children in Butler County.

Meeting Minutes

For Wednesday, August 15, 2012

Location: Bradford Memorial Library – El Dorado

Attendees (27 total):

Amanda Dorey, SCMHC – Social Stars Preschool; Audra Kenneson, Smart Start; Dale Tower, Community Partner; Gay Rozell, Dept. for Children and Families – Wichita Region; Jamie Downs, Butler County Health Department; Jamie Jellison, EduCare; Jim Garrett – Child Start; Jodi Evans, Andover YMCA; Kandi Schmidt – United Way of the Plains; Kathy Van Zelfden – Smart Start Mental Health Specialist; Kris Nicholson, Child Care Aware of KS – TEACH/WAGE\$/KQRIS; Luann McFadden – Bright Beginnings; Marcy Cone – Child Start; Marla Canfield, Department of Commerce ECAAP Program; Miles Harvey – Butler County Special Education Cooperative; Sue Barrientos – BCC Early Childhood; Sue Givens – USD 490; Susan Duncan – BCC EduCare; Susan Harsh – Bright Beginnings; Suzi Thien – SCARF; Tamara Bernard, Smart Start; Tricia Bassingthwaighe, New Generation Christian Learning Center. **New:** Katie McMurray – EHS Counselor; Angela Graves – Jefferson & Lincoln Counselor; Nicole Hall – CDDO; Shannon Lyons – Dept. for Child and Families; and Rikki Bowker – CDDO.

Introductions & Announcements:

- Sue G – Sue handed out school calendars. The Skelly dedication will be Monday Aug 20th at 5:30 pm. Hotdogs, fun, and a look at the new school.
- Tricia – New Generation in Augusta started an after school program. They received a Smart Start Grant for Existing Providers – Thank you Smart Start.
- Susan H – There is a new IFSP that is to be used state wide. It went from 7 pages to 21 pages.
- Rikki – CDDO has a new brochure (see handouts) and magnets with new contact information on them.
- Jamie D – Sue Harsh, who does licensed child care center licensing is leaving the health department. They received a Delta Dental Grant – dental kits for children, youth, and adults. August 17 (Friday), free immunization day for kids who have no health insurance.

- Marcy C – Brought Crib Notes which has information about Child Start trainings for child care providers.
- Amanda – Social Stars graduated 5 children, 3 to kindergarten. They serve 2 ½ to 5 year olds. They can take up to 24 children. Please refer when appropriate.
- Audra – Augusta Library is having a community appreciation reception on August 23 from 11 to 3. They are celebrating their 100th Anniversary. A new Incredible Years class will start on September 11 in Andover. Audra is currently enrolling families.

Guest Presenter

Suzi Thien - SCARF: Suzi has been the Executive Director for SCARF since 2008. There are four staff members total, three staff work at Sunlight Child Advocacy Center (CAC) which is accredited by the National Children's Alliance. SCARF is the umbrella organization. Under it is the CAC and there are plans to have the Children's Home and a Visitation and Exchange Center. Nearly 30% of Butler County's population are children. In Kansas 2% of abuse reports come from Butler County. The CAC has no fees for services. In 2011 they conducted 135 interviews. In the first half of 2012, they conducted 108 interviews. The CAC interviews alleged victims of abuse brought in by law enforcement of child protective services. They record the interviews and refer child for services. They are currently raising funds for the construction of the Children's Home which will be located in Andover (land donated by Hope Community Church). Major funding is from the Buckaroo Ball (held in April), Grants (Federal, State, and Local), Local Municipalities, and business and private sector donations. For more information about SCARF, CAC, or the future Children's Home, contact Suzi at 313.4107 or suzi.thien@sunlight.kscoxmail.com or go to the website at www.scarf.org.

Child Start Head Start Update – Jim Garrett:

In May they were given the information that they would receive the Head Start program for Butler and Greenwood Counties. They hope to start classes on September 4; if they are unable to start on that day, they will start as soon as possible after that day. They have just received bids on some painting and tile work that need completed. They will utilize the same facilities that have been utilized in El Dorado, Augusta, and Leon. Audra and Sue Barrientos helped with interviews. Jim gave us a page with information about who would be staffed in what positions (see handouts). They are looking at extra grants to update the playgrounds. They are recruiting children. For information on enrolling a child, families can call Leslie Bradley at 682.1853. Actual enrollments will take place locally, but they will call the Wichita number to get on the list. Child Start will have representatives at our meetings, as they staff the centers, the center managers will begin to attend. They are all in a training today and so Jim attended.

Bright Beginnings (PART C) - Susan:

The 2012 Semi-Annual Report was sent in July. In that time there were 709 screenings of young children in Butler County that were reported to Susan. Remember, if you do any screenings of children Birth – 3, please contact Susan and report that number: Health, mental health, development, etc. During the first half of the year, Bright

Beginnings received 90 referrals from families, family friends, DCF, physicians and local partners. They served 136 children in the last six months. The new IFSP went from 7 pages to 21 pages. For more information about Bright Beginnings and the infant/toddler services they provide, contact Susan at 320.1342 or sharsh@rui.org.

2013 Special Dates on Calendars of Community Partners – Audra:

We are currently looking at dates on the Spring 2013 calendar for the Rainbows Run/Walk. We know that there were other community dates on the same day last year. As partners plan events, we can report to the task force when The following dates are what was discussed at the meeting. **If you know of other dates, PLEASE let Audra know and she will add them to the Task Force calendar and send it to all of the members.**

- March 2 – Child Start – Growing with Children
- April 20 – SCARF – Buckaroo Ball
- April 20 – EHS – Prom
- April 20 – EHS Annual Track Meet at Stadium
- May 18 – BCC Graduation morning and afternoon
- June 9 – Storm the Dam

Other:

None

Next Meeting:

- September 19 – Bradford Memorial Library – 611 S. Washington; El Dorado
 - Guest Speaker: Rikki Bowker - CDDO

Note: If you or someone you know would like to be added to the mailing list for the Butler County Child & Family Development Task Force, please email Audra Kenneson at akenneson@rui.org.

Minutes written by Audra Kenneson, LMSW
Friday, August 17, 2012